

REMARKS

Claims 1-58 are pending in the application for the Examiner's review and consideration.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-58 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,500,137 to Bacon *et al.* ("Bacon") and U.S. Patent No. 5,942,217 to Woo *et al.* ("Woo") in view of Hodul *et al.* (Tenside, Surfactants & Detergents, 1997 – hereinafter "Hodul") or Hodul and Dharmawardana *et al.* (Langmuir, 1993 – hereinafter "Dharmawardana"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

On pages 2-4 of the Office Action, it alleges that "it would have been obvious to one of an ordinary skill in the art at the time of the instant invention to add uncomplexed cyclodextrin of Woo in the fabric softening composition of Bacon because Woo teaches cyclodextrin acts as an odor absorbing molecule for a broad spectrum of organic odoriferous compounds and restores/maintains the freshness of the fabrics". *See*, Office Action, page 3, lines 6-10. Applicants respectfully submit that there is no motivation to combine the disclosures of Bacon and Woo. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that Bacon teaches away from the claimed invention.

Applicants submit that there is no motivation to combine the disclosures of Bacon and Woo. As noted in MPEP §2143.01, the proposed modification cannot render the prior art unsatisfactory for its intended purpose. As the Office Actions states, Bacon teaches that the composition can optionally contain a cyclodextrin/perfume complex. *See, e.g.*, Bacon, col. 21, line 65 to col. 22, line 35. The cyclodextrin/perfume complexes of Bacon are utilized to control overall perfume odor intensity and longer lasting perfume odor impression. *See, e.g.*, Bacon, col 22, lines 25-30. By substituting the uncomplexed cyclodextrin of Woo with the cyclodextrin/perfume complexes of Bacon, the function imparted to Bacon by the cyclodextrin/perfume complexes - control overall perfume odor intensity and longer lasting perfume odor impression - is rendered unsatisfactory for its intended purpose.

Bacon further suggests cyclodextrin/perfume complexes as disclosed by patents such as 5,139,687 to Boreher *et al.* ("Boreher"). Boreher teaches that the cyclodextrins of its composition form inclusion complexes with perfumes. *See, e.g.*, Boreher, col. 3, lines 10-18.

As the cyclodextrins of Boreher are complexed with perfumes, the cyclodextrins would be unavailable to complex with other materials, such as unwanted molecules on the surfaces to be treated as disclosed by the present invention. The disclosure of Woo does not correct the deficiencies of Bacon without rendering Bacon unsatisfactory for its intended purpose.

Applicants respectfully submit that there is no motivation to combine the above-cited references. Thus, the above-cited references do not disclose or suggest every limitation of the present invention. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be reconsidered and withdrawn.

With regard to all claims not specifically mentioned, these are believed to be allowable not only in view of their dependency on their respective base claims and any intervening claims, but also for the totality of features recited therein.

All claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner disagree, Applicants respectfully invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicants to arrange for a telephonic interview in an effort to expedite the prosecution of this matter.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and accompanying remarks, reconsideration of the application and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested. No fee is believed to be due for the amendments herein. Should any fee be required, please charge such fee to Procter & Gamble Deposit Account No. 16-2480.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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